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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/659,821	09/11/2000	Yutaka Ikushima	197240US0	5767

22850 7590 01/15/2002

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EXAMINER

OH, TAYLOR V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1623

DATE MAILED: 01/15/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Applicati n No.

09/659,821

Applicant(s)

IKUSHIMA ET AL

Examin r

Taylor V. Oh

Art Unit

1623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears n the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for R ply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 September 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for a non-catalytic Cannizzaro reaction, Beckmann rearrangement reaction, and etc. does not reasonably provide enablement for all the organic syntheses. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to all the organic syntheses unrelated to the invention commensurate in scope with these claims. According to the specification, a few examples of organic syntheses such as the non-catalytic Cannizzaro reaction, Beckmann rearrangement reaction, and etc. are specified, not all the organic syntheses in the field of chemistry. An appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated clearly by An et al (Applications of High-Temperature Aqueous Media for synthetic Organic Rxns, J. Org. Chem. 1997, 62, 2505-2511).

An et al discloses applications of high-temperature aqueous media for synthetic organic reactions such as a Cannizzaro reaction (see page 2506, the second column, lines 57-58) in which benzaldehyde has generated benzoic acid and benzyl alcohol


Art Unit: 1623

(see page 2507, table 1, example # 36). The reference has indicated that the conditions near supercritical water of 374 ° C have been investigated and found that the superheated water can react in the organic reactions; furthermore, it emphasizes that other potential benefits from high-temperature aqueous media include no addition of catalyst (see page 2507, from line 9 of the first col. to line 3 of the second col.). This is identical to the claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communications from the examiner should be directed to T. Victor Oh whose telephone number is (703)305-0809. The examiner can be normally reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Gary Geist, can be reached on (703) 308-1701. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703)308-2742.

nh
11/11/02


PAUL J. KILLOS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
A.U. 1623